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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/833,838	04/10/1997	BRUCE D. GAYNOR	96700/451	3053

7590 04/15/2004

AMSTER ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN
90 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

EXAMINER

EWOLDT, GERALD R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1644

DATE MAILED: 04/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's amendment and remarks, filed 10/10/03, have been entered.
2. Claims 54-58, 71-74, and newly added Claim 75, are being acted upon are pending.
3. In view of the instant amendment and response, the previous rejection under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 has been withdrawn. In particular, Applicant's showing through the submission of the reference of Sharma et al. (2003) that the peptides of the instant claims are capable of binding the R4A antibody in a relevant *in vitro* model (ELISA), and the limiting of the method of the claims to a method of inhibiting antibodies that bind the same epitope as R4A, has overcome the rejection.
4. The following are new grounds for rejection.
5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
6. Claims 54-58, 71-74, and newly added Claim 75, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, Claim 54 is nonsensical. It appears that Applicant has inadvertently removed the word "antibody" from line 3 such that the claim now reads "A method of inhibiting binding of an anti-double stranded (ds) DNA to glomeruli of renal tissue in a subject...", . The method should recite "A method of inhibiting binding of an anti-double stranded (ds) DNA antibody to glomeruli of renal tissue in a subject..."

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

8. Claims 54-58, 71-74, and newly added Claim 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as the specification does not contain a written description of the claimed invention, in that the disclosure does not reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s) had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed. This is a new matter rejection.

The specification and the claims as originally filed do not provide support for the invention as now claimed, specifically, the recitation of:

A) "A method ... wherein the anti-ds antibody binds to the same epitope as an R4A antibody" in Claim 54.

Applicant's amendment, filed 10/10/03, asserts that support for the new limitation can be found at page 11, line 28 through page 12, line 1, of the specification. Support, however, has only been found for the R4A antibody and not antibodies which bind the same epitope.

9. No claim is allowed.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Gerald Ewoldt whose telephone number is (571) 272-0843. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on (571) 272-0841.

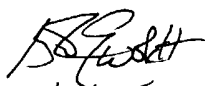
11. **Please Note:** Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Additionally, the Technology Center receptionist can be reached at (571) 272-1600.

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4/10/04
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